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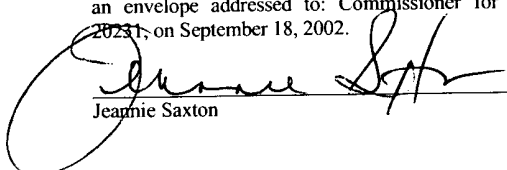
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

In re Patent Application of: )  
Kazuichiro ITONAGA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2823  
Serial No. 09/662,004 ) Examiner: William M. Brewster  
Filed: September 14, 2000 )  
For: METHOD OF FORMING INSULATING ) Date: September 18, 2002  
FILM AND METHOD OF )  
FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR )  
DEVICE )

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 18, 2002.

  
Jeannie Saxton

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2002, Applicants provide the following species election.

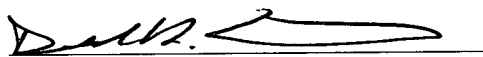
Applicant hereby elects Species I as illustrated at least in Figures 1-10. Claims 1-20 are readable thereon.

It should be noted that Applicant believes that Figs. 11-13 should also be included in Species I. For instance, Fig. 11 is a sectional view showing the bias plasma oxidation and the silicidation of the structure of the gate electrodes (18a, 18b) taken alone on a section

perpendicular to the section shown in Fig. 6(a). In particular, Fig. 11 shows a sectional view in which the gate electrodes shown in Figs. 5-7 are taken from a different direction (See, page 42 of the specification). Figs. 12 and 13 are diagrams which explain the effectiveness of the bias plasma oxidation shown in Fig. 6(a). Therefore, Figs. 11-13 should be considered together with Figs. 1-10 as Species I.

Should the Examiner believe a conference would be of benefit in expediting the prosecution of the instant application, he is hereby invited to telephone counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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DRS:TAV/jms